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July 27, 1976

3400

Mr. James Tiner
Timber Management
Arkansas Forestry Commission
3821 W. Roosevelt Rd.
Little Rock, Arkansas 72204

Dear Jim:

On July 6-9, an aerial survey was conducted by Insect and Disease Management, State and Private Forestry in south Arkansas. The objective of this survey was to determine the status and extent of the oak mortality problem found in this area last year. A 25 percent aerial sketch map survey was conducted over all or part of the following counties: Union, Columbia, Calhoun, Ashley, Ouachita, Bradley, and Drew. Approximately 140,000 acres of pine-oak forest land was surveyed; and a total of 456 declining hardwoods observed. A high water table in many areas appeared to be responsible for much of this decline.

These aforementioned counties were ground checked for declining oaks on July 19-20. Some of those trees detected during the aerial survey were found and samples taken for culture purposes. Dr. Ted Filer of the Southern Hardwood Laboratory, Stoneville, Mississippi, was present during this phase of the survey. He is presently working with us in trying to determine the causal agent(s) responsible for this oak condition.

Both the aerial survey and ground check have indicated that the oak decline and mortality appears to be light this year. However, let us know if you receive more reports of oak mortality.

Please thank Lynn Sullivan for his assistance during the ground check. We appreciated his help very much.

Sincerely,

ROBERT C. LOOMIS

ROBERT C. LOOMIS
Field Representative, Alexandria
Forest Insect & Disease Management

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